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The purest ingredients only are used, and the utmost care and cleanliness are exercised in the manufacture throughout.

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"SODAS"

We continue to supply large bottles as heretofore, free of Extra Charge; to those of our Customers who prefer to have them to the ordinary size.

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SARSAPARILLA WATER

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GINGERADE.

No Credit given for bottles that look dirty, or grubby, or that appear to have been used for any other purpose than that of containing Aerated Water, as such bottles are never used again by us.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LIMITED, Hongkong, China, and Manila.

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"THE HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" Office, Pedder's Hill, Hongkong, January 19th, 1891.

BIRTH.

On the 14th July, at Hythe, Kent, the wife of Captain JASPER GRAHAM MAYNE, of a daughter (Cecily Mary).

The Hongkong Telegraph.

HONGKONG, FRIDAY, AUGUST 14, 1891.

MEHR LICHT.

It has been decided to construct a lighthouse on Waglan Island and when it is finished the light house at Cape D'Aguiar will not be required and we would suggest that it be removed and placed on Pedro Blanco, an islet which lies distant some 45 or 50 miles from Hongkong in the direction of Swatow and some 18 miles off the coast. Pedro Blanco is a solitary islet, 130 feet in height and is a capital milestone, so to speak, for coasting steamers. If a lighthouse were constructed upon it a splendid off-shore leading mark would be established, about half way between Breaker Point light and Waglan. Further this rocky islet could not possibly prove a bone of contention between the British and Chinese authorities, for a sparrow would find some difficulty in subsisting upon its surface; and its political bearing is nil. The islet when viewed from a certain direction looks like a Chinese junk under sail and we well remember a Naval Commander in one of the "puffing" gunboats in the fifties taking it for such in the mystification either of twilight or of something more exciting—hailing the rock in its solitariness and threatening to run it down if it did not move out of the way. Needless to say Pedro Blanco remained where it is today, but H.M.S. *Forester* fortunately, at the last moment, did move out of the way. The lead is the seaman's faithful guide on the China or any other coast, but if Pedro Blanco were utilized in the manner suggested above, it would indeed be in the most obscure weather prove a blessing to seamen navigating this coast. The cost of maintaining this light is a consideration, but no doubt this could be reduced within a very reasonable limit, by special arrangements with the Coasting lines considering the utility it would prove to them.

TELEGRAMS.

(From the Straits Times.)

THE POWERS AND THE CHINESE RIOTS.

LONDON, August 5th.
 In consequence of the inadequacy of the redress offered by the Chinese Government in the matter of the recent foreign riots in China, the various Governments concerned are considering measures by a blue book for a common intervention. The Chinese Minister in London has informed the Marquis of Salisbury that the riots were due to the action of Chinese secret societies agitating against the Government rather than to the presence of foreigners; further executions he said would only tend to increase the present state of excitement.

THE EX-SULTAN OF PERAK.

Lord Kintford, the Secretary of State for the Colonies, has consented to allow the ex-Sultan of Perak together with his comrades to reside in Singapore. The party will leave the Seychelles immediately.

[Abdullah, the ex-Sultan of Perak, agreed by treaty in 1874 to accept British protection exercised under the advice of a Resident. The first Resident appointed, Mr. J. W. Birch, was murdered at the Sultan's instigation in Nov. 1875. A war broke out in consequence, and troops had to be brought from India and China to reinforce the Straits garrison in overpowering resistance and punishing the Resident's murderers. The Sultan and three chiefs were proved to be the prime movers in the crime, and were hence banished to the Seychelles, the next year. The ex-Sultan has since repeatedly applied to the Home Government to be allowed to return to this part of the world. He and his comrades have been now about fifteen years in exile.]

FRANCE AND RUSSIA.

The report that an alliance has been entered into between France and Russia is not officially denied.

BRITISH WAR VESSELS AT ALEXANDRIA.

Six vessels belonging to the Mediterranean squadron have suddenly arrived at Alexandria. It is suggested that this movement has some connection with the reports that the Sultan of Turkey intends intervening in Egyptian affairs.

PARLIAMENT.

Parliament has been prorogued, and it is generally believed there will be another Session before dissolving.

LORD SALISBURY AND EGYPT.

The Marquis of Salisbury has declined to parley with reference to the evacuation of Egypt, and he has informed the Turkish Ambassador in London that the present time was inopportune for any such movement.

[The above may be read in connection with the following telegram published recently:— Six vessels belonging to the Mediterranean squadron have suddenly arrived at Alexandria. It is suggested that this movement has some connection with the reports that the Sultan of Turkey intends intervening in Egyptian affairs.]

BRISBANE, Thursday, 6th August, 4.8 p.m.

The price of Raub Shares is:—

Sellers..... 1/6
 Buyers..... 1/3
 Sales..... none.

The above is the official price declared on the Brisbane Stock Exchange.

[The Secretary of the Brisbane Stock Exchange in a letter received by us a little while ago says:—"I placed your letter before my Committee by whom I am directed to advise you that the cypher sent gives accurately the quotations of the day." On one day (only) there was a mistake in hurriedly reading the cypher. The mistake was not of great importance.]

Friday, 7th August, 4 p.m.

The price of Raub Shares is:—

Sellers..... none.
 Buyers..... 1/6
 Sales..... none.

The above is the official price declared on the Brisbane Stock Exchange.

THE KAISER'S REPORTED ILLNESS CONTRADICTION.

LONDON, August 11th.
 It is officially denied that the Emperor is ill.

ENGLAND'S POLICY IN EGYPT.

"The Standard" in a leading article announces that it is impossible for England to at present evacuate Egypt, and warns the Sultan against listening to those who advise such a policy.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

THE P. & O. S. N. Co.'s steamer *Arctura* left Nagasaki for this port at 6 p.m. yesterday.

THE Court—Would you believe this man on oath? Faddy O'Reilly—Not unless he swore he was lying, yer honor.

TRUE economy, says a philosopher, is the child of wisdom and the mother of independence—who the father is unknown.

THE Ocean Steamship Co.'s steamer *Titan* left Singapore for Hongkong this morning, and may be expected on or about the 20th inst.

AN American syndicate has been formed for raising the sum of \$50,000,000 for the purpose of establishing a Monte Carlo in Mexico.

How the Hibernian loves the emerald!—Green Farrot (to Italian)—Where did you get your hat?—Pat—Ah, now me foinc burd, yer colour is all that saves ye.

THE French chartered transport *Comar* arrived at Singapore on the 11th inst. from Toulon and left for Tonquin on the following morning with some 1,600 soldiers on board.

AN Emergency meeting of St. John Lodge, No. 618, S.C., will be held in Freemasons' Hall, Zealand Street, to-morrow, at 8 for 8.30 p.m. precisely. Visiting brethren are cordially invited.

THE P. & O. steamer *Minerva* with the English mail got the start of the "man at the Peak" this morning, and steamed along the Kowloon wharves at about 8.45 a.m. without being perceived.

ROBERT SIMLEY of the Sailor's Home after cursing and drinking fire-water at the expense of one Simpson, repaid him by stealing his coat and \$3 just for a joke. Mr. Wise could not see the point and gave him 14 days hard.

WE note Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. are loading the steamship *Kowloon* with kerosene oil for coast ports. The kerosene anchorage was quite lively yesterday, what with *Kowloon*, *Hankow*, *Peking* and *Kiangchow*.

MR. Rodyk charged his 'ricksha coolie with stealing a razor valued at \$2 during his absence in Canton, the prisoner told the magistrate that he had only taken a temporary loan of it as his own was a bit off color, \$5 or 14 days.

AN artist gave his latest painting to a porter to take to the Academy. "Be careful, be careful," said he, "the picture is scarcely dry." "Oh, never mind," exclaimed the porter, "it's of no consequence at all—my clothes are old."

AT the Harbour Office this morning, before Commander Hastings, R.N., Inspector Butler charged seven fishermen with anchoring unlicensed boats at Sywan Bay in the waters of this colony; they were each fined \$5 or 14 days.

IT is the custom of the Bank of England not to pay fractions of a penny in the case of dividends on Government stock. These fractions have in the course of years amounted to the large sum of £140,000, which amount has had to be paid over to the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

THE Japanese have an aphorism that is worthy a place in our copy books.

"How seldom he who takes a drink Perceives the devil's crafty plan! The first drink takes a second drink And then the two drinks take the man."

THE body of Mrs. Egan, the wife of a Colour Serjt. in the Military establishment here who died in Macao yesterday was brought over here to-day by the steamship *Huanghai* for interment, the body was received at the wharf by numerous friends who followed it to the Roman Catholic cemetery in Happy Valley.

A YOUNG gentleman of the "shell-back" persuasion named Joseph Hughes being in a playful mood last night, tried to induce Sikh constable 748, to be of the same turn of mind, and to prove a failure Joseph wrestled, his rifle away and poked the limb of the law in the ribs. This performance the Sikh naturally objected to by locking Joseph up. He pleaded drunkenness, this morning and was let off by stumping up three Mexicans.

A WATERER in a turf journal gives the following rule to estimate the height to which a colt grows. Take a colt at any time between six weeks old and one year, stand him on a level surface so that he will stand naturally, then measure the distance from the hair of the hoof to his knee joint, and for every inch or fraction thereof he measures he will be high when matured. If he measures 15 inches he will grow to be 15 hands high, if 16 inches, he will be 16 hands high, and so on.

SCENE—Editorial Sanctum.

Old Buffer (entering with a solemn smile)
 Anything I can do for you?
 Weary Editor (who has heard the conundrum 500 times before)
 Yes, get out!

AN invalid, planter named Riechter belonging to Sumatra and who had just come from Penang with the intention of proceeding home in the last German mail, died on board the steamship *Purnea* at Singapore on the 8th inst. The deceased who was travelling with his family, was suffering from beri-beri.

SCENE in the Police Court to-day. Mongolian "blood" under cross-examination admits having paid \$100 for the person of a young and lovely Celestial maiden, but swears that subsequent knowledge of her only cost him \$2. Lawyer (exactly) Now! Now! I know better than that. Senator, and general snigger throughout the court.

THE Canton authorities have made another attempt to effect a gigantic squeeze on foreign trade. They have insisted on the Chinese tea-merchants shipping their tea by native vessels and have so arranged matters that foreign tea is placed at a disadvantage of about a half-penny per lb. Upwards of 15,000 packages came down by native craft two days ago. How about Treaty obligations?

A CORRESPONDENT writes to say that the rumoured closing of the gambling halls at Kowloon is a myth, and that with the exception of the three houses facing the Bay at the head of the pier, gambling is carried on with as much avidity as ever. He adds that a Chinese friend of his won some \$2,000 there on Wednesday last. No Europeans, however, have visited the place for some days past.

IT will be learned here with regret that Mr. Macdonald Cameron, the genial M.P. for Wick has been seriously ill. Mr. Cameron travelled through the East some months ago, and contracted a bad attack of malarial fever while in Siam, and this together with an attack of influenza which he caught upon returning home, has almost too much even for his robust constitution. The hon. gentleman has, however, recovered.

THIS morning before Mr. Wise, Lo Atze, a watchman, was brought up on remand charged with stealing an anchor and chain valued at \$40, the property of Mr. R. Fraser-Smith. It appears the prisoner engaged a coolie on the 22nd ult. to take an anchor away on a raft and drop it in the harbour. This he denied. Inspector Hanson said that he had traced the chain to Macao where it was sold. Mr. Wise sentenced him to six weeks' imprisonment.

AN edifying spectacle was witnessed at Pedder's Wharf last evening when a local legal luminary was engaged in combat with a chair coolie. The man of law advanced to the charge under the protection of an Alpine-stock and for a few moments the fun was fast and furious, until the unfortunate Mongolian, rightly judging discretion to be the better part of valor, hastily retreated and left the field in the possession of this very creditable representative of the devil's brigade.

THOSE of our readers who are in the habit of swimming in the deep water of the bay should bear in mind that according to the Chinese fishermen, this week (the second week in August) is the one in which the ground-sharks enter the harbor and remain until November. What truth there is to the theory we have no means of knowing, but the celestials are always keen observers of the habits and movements of the piscic world.

LOTTERIES are particularly life-just now: especially Wei Sing, the examination upon which the "fike" is based taking place next month. P.C. Macaulay caught a man carrying on shore from the *Hankow* a parcel containing half a picul of these tickets, and promptly ran him in. The prisoner brought forth the old and worn-out excuse of "carrying them for master," but without the desired effect for he was sent aloft for six weeks' oakum teasing.

A WELL-KNOWN young gentleman in Hongkong had until lately the playful habit of thrashing his wife with great regularity and a bamboo. (He has it no more as the Law has interfered.) The last sportiveness produced two black eyes on the part of the wife, who is a very pretty blonde. A friend who tried to apologize for the brutality said, "Her eyes were so bright, that he mistook them for the dawn. Finding his mistake he did the next best thing and put them in mourning!"

A STRIKING illustration of the gratitude of human nature is afforded in the following advertisement, which appeared in the London *Standard*—unless, indeed, there be more in it than meets the eye—"A gentleman who lent a black machinist to a lady at Henley, who got wet on Tuesday last, applied to the Housekeeper at 15, Walbrook, E.C. He can have it by paying the cost of this advertisement."—*Truth* says that the gentleman in question can hardly be accused of want of gallantry if he lets the other sex get wet through in future.

SIX Chinese were arrested a few nights ago in Magazine Road Penang, for attempted gang robbery. It appears that they had broken into a Chinaman's house there but before they had time to make away with any property, their presence was discovered by one of the female inmates who shouted loudly for help. Her cries were heard at the Magazine Station, and Sergeant Kim and others at once proceeded to the house. The robbers had by this time disappeared, but the woman had observed them enter a vacant house close by and so directed the police there, with the result that the men were all caught, as it were, in a trap.

A MEMBER of the British Officers' Marine Association writes—"Statistics show that there have been 175 fires on board cotton-laden ships bound from the States to Europe; also that since 1887 there have been no fires on cotton-laden ships from India, and only four previous to that year. The natural inference is that there must be some special cause, or causes, for the Atlantic fires; and there can be no manner of doubt that what between bad packing, certain mischievous customs, and the notorious "fire bug," the frequent United States cotton is amply responsible for the trouble. Lord Stanley, however, proposes to attack, not the Yankee "fire bug," but the British shipowner, who is fast becoming the Lord Balfour of Burleigh made reference to certain well-ascertained causes of fire in United States cotton; but when he added that some burnings had occurred through electricity being generated between the iron bands and the cotton, he simply ventilated a theory of his own—or more probably and furnished him by a *Surrogate*.

THERE are more quarrels smothered by just shutting your mouth and holding it shut than by all the wisdom in the world.

THE conspiracy case is still dragging its—well not weary, but rather spiky, way along at the Magistracy. Mr. Wise again sat for a couple of hours this afternoon, but nothing of great interest was elicited. The case comes on again on Wednesday next.

AT the present time of the year when the conscript fathers of the place tear up all the streets, so as to expose the decaying matter beneath as well as to fill the ambient atmosphere with maledictory and miasmatic gases, it is well to read the advice of Dr. Charles H. H. Hall, the Yokohama physiologist, to plant sandalwood and eucalypti wherever possible. These two growths have a wonderful power of destroying unhealthy vapour, malaria and disease-germs and as might be expected, thrive in Hongkong thanks to the conscript Fathers to an unparalleled degree.

WE learn with regret from the *Bangkok Times* of the demise of Mr. Duncan Normby, which took place on the 30th ult. Mr. Normby was 35 years of age, and had served the portion of that time in the British Navy. He had seen some service, and had the Egyptian war-medal and the Turkish Order, of the Fourth Class of the Medjidie Mr. Normby was well known in this Colony, having served as an engineer for some time in the Scottish Oriental S. S. Co., which he left about 12 months ago to take the post of Superintendent Engineer of the launches of the Siamet Postal Department. The remains were interred in the Protestant Cemetery at Bangkok.

THE Swedish corvette *Vanadis* reports a remarkable incident off Cape Trafalgar. A capiz vessel was sighted, and a man, presumably a fisherman, found clinging to the bows, which alone were above water. He was in an exhausted condition and had been more than 24 hours in this position, and had seen his two comrades sink from exhaustion. The poor fellow was landed and placed under the care of the Spanish Consul, who will see him safely returned to his home near Cadix. The vessel was on her way from Tangiers to Cadiz. Although conscious when picked up, he lost his senses for some time after his recovery, and it is difficult to find out how and where the accident happened.

CHAN AKWONG, a gay and festive "boy" finding his rather cool yesterday, put three extra jackets on; this led Detective Haden who was strolling round to have suspicions as to the genuineness of the lad's bulk so he stopped Master Chan, and indulged in a short interview, which disclosed a bottle of whisky and a pair of trousers wrapped in a silk handkerchief with the initials A.D.D. Chan of course was invited to the Central Station, where it was found that his worldly possessions were not confined to the above articles, for a bottle of beer and a ditto of stout were found at anchor under his waist-belt. He pleaded that a friend of his, a boy in the employ of the Hon. Mr. Ryrie had given him the liquid solace, but this was denied by the individual in question, so Chan was thereupon fined \$10 with the alternative of a month's gaol for the good of the Nation.

In the death of Sir Charles Forster, M.P., for Walsall, England loses one of the leaders who made the Liberal Party its ruling organization for many years. He was the only son of Charles Smith Forster of Lysways Hall, Rugely, a healthy gentleman, and Elizabeth Emory Forster, daughter of Richard Emory of Barco-House, Salop. He was born at Rugely in 1815 and educated at Worcester College, Oxford. He was admitted to the Bar at the Inner Temple in 1843 and in 1844 joined the Oxford "circle." Though rich in his own right, he worked very hard in his profession and soon achieved considerable distinction as a pleader. In 1849, he entered the arena as a political speaker and took rank forthwith as a powerful and convincing, though not an eloquent speaker. He made himself so popular in the next two years that in 1852 he was offered and accepted the liberal nomination for Walsall. He was elected by a handsome majority and has continued to represent that great constituency in Parliament, he displayed great executive ability and was more than any other man the master of private business. In 1874 he was created a baronet. He married Frances Catherine Surtees, niece of the first Earl of Eldon, by whom he has had issue.

DURING the day, the movement of travel and traffic keep the air in circulation and prevent the public from noticing the foul vapors which arise from the excavation on Queen's Road and the adjacent streets. But at night when the great thoroughfare is untenanted, save by the stinking Sikh and the staggering sailor, the atmosphere becomes surcharged with mephitic horror and a stercoraceous stench. It enters the offices and godowns, impregnating everything it touches. The alarming amount of summer complaints that have occurred past fortnight is due to no other cause. Why do not our sanitary authorities adopt the simple system employed in London, New York and Paris and disinfest every excavation? The cost would be insignificant, the comfort unpeakable and the sanitary improvement enormous. Or is it that the powers that be wish to take the role of moral mentors and keep the idle and mischievous at home by making the streets unendurable and deadly after nightfall. Or are they waiting until they hear from London what is a sufficient and whether it should be eaten, drunk or worn as a cholera belt? What is the trouble, gentlemen, and why do you not show some evidence of your being alive?

THE experiments in irrigation by means of artificial wells now being conducted by the United States in Nebraska and the Dakotas are already yielding interesting and in many instances remarkable results. A well sunk 400 feet in a dry valley brought up a column of water, six inches in diameter that spouted 35 feet above the surface and has continued to flow with unabated force ever since. A series of five wells, with depths varying from 203 to 303 feet deliver water, whose composition is identical with that of a series of lakes, nearly 200 miles away. It is believed in this case that the water percolates downward at the lakes through sandstone until it reaches an impervious clay rock stratum, along whose surface it flows for hundreds of miles. No explanation has as yet been offered for the tremendous pressure which forces the fluid up in the artesian wells. The former belief that gases and granite were impenetrable to water must go with other exploded notions to the limbo of vanities. Under pressure the water percolates through both these igneous rocks. They exercise a slight filtering power, but are inferior in this regard to sandstone or even limestone. In some instances, where it is supposed that the granite is not thoroughly crystallized, the water attacks the felspar and dissolves out enough potash to be perceptibly alkaline. The engineers recommend the sinking of the shafts on the hillside and the construction of reservoirs. Canals and sluices will then carry enough water for irrigation purposes over a district of several miles; and so save the trouble of pumps, mules and delivery pipes.

THE *Huanghai* presented quite a lively spectacle to-day, as "The Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboat Co." gave the young students of the Italian Convent the opportunity of a free trip to Macao and back. We greet with commendation, this consideration on the part of the Company, to this budding youthful portion of the community who enjoy such few opportunities for healthful recreation.

INSPECTOR STAUNTON "captured" a large haul of raw opium last night, amounting to about 100 taels. The drug was found in the possession of one Chan A Man, residing at No. 5 Tolo On Lane. Books scales &c were produced showing the defendant was doing a big business. He was fined \$200 or 3 months which alternative he elected to accept as also did another Celestial named Mak A Pak who faced Mr. Wise on a charge of having been found in possession of 170 taels of illicit opium. \$300 not being forthcoming, he as stood, will be accommodated in the Thompsonian Home until the Summer months are over.

THERE is no more mournful spectacle than a first-class English hunting-dog here in the effete East. There are almost no birds for him to "point" at, there are no leafy nooks and covers, there are any number of pests which bite and sting him and there is the hot climate which destroys his finest qualities. The German Consul at Swatow, Colonel Strehl has however, found a method to exercise the hunting dog and to utilize the canine virtues by training the intelligent quadruped to scent out white ants! Three years ago the H.I.G.M. Consulate was overrun with the redoubtable insects who made life scarce worth living within its walls. The Consul had just received 3 fine hunting dogs from home and was worried not to have some regular work for them. So in despair of anything better he taught them to find white ants' nests about the building and there is the hot climate which before a fortnight had passed were digging up ants from the flower-pots and excavating nests buried in the walks or under the verandahs. By degrees they became so proficient that they would notify the Consul by scratching and barking when the insects had begun to bore furniture. On one occasion the best dog, a fine spaniel, insisted upon the coolies bringing a step ladder into the parlor and placing it against the door way. He climbed its steep ascent to the top and there showed his astonished master that the ants were undermining the door-frame and had destroyed so much fibre that it was liable to fall and crush anyone beneath it. The accomplished Canine takes no credit for originating so useful a practice, but says that the idea was suggested by the late Frank Buckland, England's greatest naturalist. The notion is really a brilliant one and opens a splendid field for the faithful hound. Instead of opening a pack upon a half starved fox, the sporting man will now turn them loose in his chambers or will spend a day in the nooks and corners of some official's palace. There's rare sport in the Governor's residence and several other aristocratic establishments we wot of.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not necessarily endorse the opinions expressed by Correspondents in this column.]

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH."
 SIR,—As an indication of the manner in which Chinese signatures are being obtained for the petition that is now in process of preparation against the Sunday Cargoes-rolling Ordinance, will you permit me to recount a little episode of which I was a witness yesterday? I was sitting in one of the best known Chinese long's talking to the proprietor, when rather a richly dressed Celestial marched in and enquired for the manager and being directed to him produced a large roll, which on being opened out proved to be a petition addressed to the Secretary of State against the Sunday Labour bill. The first two pages were in English representing how hard it would be to thousands of Chinese who would be thrown out of work by the operation of such an infamous act (as they wished it to appear) and though the exact words were not used, it was nothing whatever written or printed in Chinese to explain the nature of the petition and without fear of contradiction I can say that not a dozen members or masters of long's in the whole street can read English. But the best of it was the gentleman with the petition after giving some sort of an explanation, informed them that the Colonial Secretary wanted it signed by the Chinese community to send home. However, I managed to explain to the manager that the framers of the petition cared as little, perhaps, or not half as much, whether the Chinese worked or not on a Sunday, as he did about going without his morning coffee; and that the whole thing was a bit of spite. I also succeeded in proving that it was necessary on sanitary grounds that the coolie class required at least one day in the week to wash, shave and cleanse themselves; with which he quite agreed. I am happy to say that no signatures were obtained at that long. This will give you some sort of an idea how signatures are obtained amongst the Chinese by the men who go rushing from long to long, saying that the Colonial Secretary wanted the petition signed! Chinese not being able to read English, he did not bring a way or the other, (except firms connected with shipping, and of whose chops I noted several) just put their names on the papers and then go on with their smoke.

Yours faithfully,
 "OLD SALT."
 Hongkong, 14th August, 1891.

LATE BORNEO NEWS.

WE hear the tobacco crop on the Koyah estate on the Kibabangan river is looking very promising.

content coolies went out one night and raked up a lot of seed. It is to be regretted the field coolies in the divisions did not catch the second crop. They would have given them very short shift, which would have had more effect on them and their kind. We are glad to hear that the two rivers estate has been able to let Mr. Van der Hoeven have a lot of seedlings which will nearly replace the amount of those destroyed. The two rivers estate has now been closed, and the coolies have all gone over to other plantations. It is a pity the Borneo Labuk Tobacco Company did not work out this year's crop. They were well advanced, and the tobacco now in the fields looks as strong and healthy as any one could wish.

We regret to learn that some person (posing as an infallible authority on the tobacco industry in Hongkong) to the effect that the 1890 crop on Toongood Estate had been spoiled and was valueless. The local agents of the Labuk Planting Company, together with the agents of the Insurance Companies who insured the crop, had the tobacco examined by two leading planters, who we understand have reported very favourably on it. The estate is now quite recovered from the state of chaos it had fallen into a few months ago. The coolies are working away as contentedly as can be wished, and as their tobacco is coming on well they take an interest in their work. It is a good sign when coolies will go into their fields at night time of their own accord to look after their plants, and this is now the case at Toongood; so we are informed, not in two or three cases, but with the majority of the field coolies. All this has resulted from a change in the management.—*Herald*.

SARAWAK.

On the 31st July, the General State Council of Sarawak met in the Palace at Kuching to hear a speech from the Rajah dealing with the succession to the throne, and with the general prospects of the country. His Highness explained that he had left in his will directions that the time of his son's coming of age should be when he had reached his seventeenth birthday. He now proclaimed his son, Vyner, as his successor whenever it pleased God to take his own life, and directed that seven days after his death he, as Rajah Muda, should be publicly installed as Rajah of Sarawak. This he entrusted to the Members of Council, both European and Native, to see solemnly carried out.

His Highness said he had now completed what he had been most anxious to do for some years past, and felt his mind much more easy in consequence. He ended by stating that if there was no cause to detain him he would visit England for about six months shortly but his going entirely depended on the state of public affairs.

As to the progress of the country of late, his Highness said that by the records of trade he found that since two years ago when they were before one another, pepper had fallen from \$20 to \$10, gambler from \$9 to \$5, and rice from about 20 to 25 cents per picul. In the year 1888 there were 6,390 factories in Kuching and now in 1890 there were 91 in 1888 140,000 piculs (14 lakhs) of sago were exported and this year the estimated export was 180,000 piculs. Pepper exported in 1888 was nearly 930 piculs and last year it was nearly 1,700, almost double. Gambler stands about the same, so that there has not been any increase in the cultivation of this article. Gutta percha and rattans keep up in price and have, if anything, increased in quantity. The exports and imports of late have made a fair increase of about half a million dollars, the market was healthy and the rise of trade gradual and firm which was better than that it should rise with sudden jumps.

An unfavourable report of Matang tea was recently received by Messrs. the Borneo Company Limited from Messrs. Chas. Hope and Son of London. The tea was valued at from 7d. to 9d. and was said to be over fired. On enquiry being made at the estate it appears that this tea had been forwarded to Kuching for local consumption only, and was part of a batch which had previously been badly reported on by Messrs. Hope and Son. The bulk of the tea, samples of which were well reported on, is still in the factory and is guaranteed by the Manager to be up to sample.

An extradition treaty has been concluded with the British North Borneo Government. The following are the offences within the meaning of the agreement:—viz., all those offences enumerated in the First Schedule of the Extradition (North Borneo) Ordinance 1890 of Labuan, with the exception that obtaining money or goods by false pretences, and breach of contract of service, shall only be extradition offences when committed by others than by those styled Dyaks, or by other primitive inhabitants of these countries.—*Gazette*.

THE HONGKONG BANK IN MANILA.

We, says the *London and China Express*, have received a letter of "One Who Knows Better" in reply to the letter of "One Who Knows" on the above matter. The communication states:—

In the said letter I remark that the facts of the case, between the bank and Jurado and Co., of Manila, are "that the bank's agent in Manila, in pursuance of instructions, required payments of the London drafts before giving up the bills of lading; and "in an ill-advised moment the bank presented a bill on the bills of lading in exchange for his acceptance." The bank's agent went on replying "his first mistake," that when the first acceptance (at two or three months' date) was dishonoured he then fell back upon his collateral, but to his amazement he found that the *pagaras* (bills drawn and payable in the same town, not promissory notes) "were not first-class commercial documents," that "the first was in the fire," but "the bank continued to extend the London credit (\$2,000), and had given to the tune of nearly \$300,000, or, say, \$500,000." Does your correspondent intend to say that the agent was to utterly incompetent, and that the directors had forgotten to stop such and that the directors had forgotten to stop such and that the agent was so entirely innocent as to commit such gross blunders?

That Jurado and Co.'s rights are only defended by *plea-fillets* (unqualified practitioners); and that the bank has been condemned by *natus fides*, who make it a matter of honour to annoy the English bank. I beg to inform you that the present advocates or legal advisers of the said bank are also two natives of the Philippines Islands. Mr. Godinez, who acts for the bank in Madrid, was born in Ylocos, in the Island of Luzon; and Mr. Yeaza, acting for them in Manila, was born in Manila. The judge, Mr. Enriquez, who in the beginning of the proceedings declared Jurado and Co.'s bankruptcy, and ordered the embargo of their property, was also a "mestizo," or half-caste.

But the most stupendous statement is that the "plea-fillets" cannot now do much mischief, as the matter will be in the hands of *Paninilak* (European Spaniards). Well, sir, Mr. Justice Castro, who ordered the last embargo for about \$600,000, is a European, born in Spain, and of great and long standing on the Spanish bank; the same as all the others, who gave the final judgments now to be executed.

Besides, I may mention that the bank about the year 1885, before Jurado & Co. obtained

their judgments, employed a European advocate, Mr. Moreno La Calle, of the Madrid and Manila Bar, who, according to what was publicly stated, advised the bank to what was settled litigation, as he considered their case quite hopeless, and he himself, with the consent of the bank agent, I presume, opened negotiations for an arrangement with Jurado and Co.'s advocates, and both agreed and initialled the terms, with which Mr. Godinez, the present advocate of the bank, concurred; but the settlement entered into three years ago was disapproved of by the Directors of the Bank at Hong Kong, and therefore not carried out. The arrangement, if my information is correct, was that the bank should return to Jurado and Co. all their securities, and pay them in cash \$200,000; a much smaller sum than the amount, about \$300,000, now awarded as capital and damages, in addition to costs.

The letter concludes by placing the following points before the shareholders:—

- 1st. That although it has been assured them that they will gain their case, they have now three final judgments against them.
- 2nd. That they have been condemned and already embargoed for \$328,000.
- 3rd. That they have been also condemned, and an order has been granted for execution, for about \$938,000, of which \$300,000 are actually embargoed.
- 4th. That there is one further condemnation of damages and losses pending execution.
- 5th. That the bank at Manila is closed from the 27th inst.
- 6th. That they have not yet succeeded in getting returned the \$328,000, as was promised to them by their Chairman, pending only some formalities, for the past three years.

CHINESE IMMIGRATION.

SAN FRANCISCO, July 16th [SPECIAL].

Collector Phelps has good evidence that serious frauds have been committed in several American Consulates in the Orient in helping the Chinese to gain admission to California. The Collector has furnished the State Department with a specimen of fraud which will be investigated. It seems it has been the custom here to admit any Chinese whose certificate bore the Consul's seal indicating that it was correct. This seal is affixed after the Chinese Customs Department has also vouched for the man.

Lately it has been noticed that the seals of Consuls have been affixed to a number of certificates that did not bear the Chinese Government signature. Nothing was thought of this, and he paid \$200 to the Consul to secure his papers. Then a search was made and fifteen similar certificates without the Chinese endorsement were found on file. All the men who bore them had been admitted without question.

The question is whether it is carelessness or a scheme of some Consul official to make money. Another irregularity was also discovered by accident. The certificates of Hongkong haven't been vouched by the Chinese Consul there, but immigrants have waited till they reached Yokohama and then secured the endorsement of the Chinese Consul there who could not know them personally. In this way the Collector introduced here.

The above is a dire reflection on the authorities whose duty it is to check such violations of law. It is a well known fact that a mercenary Mongolian, formerly a California convict, and now a thriving (an American paper would say) merchant in Hongkong, realized as his share of the profits, over one hundred thousand dollars by forging return certificates for Chinamen who emigrated to America since the passage of the act excluding Chinese coolies. This clever Cantonese acted in conjunction with two lawyers in San Francisco. The success of their scheme emboldened them to greater risks and finally they had an invoice of coolies sent back and the latter demanded the return of their bribe money. This gave the scheme away and discouraged the traffic for a season. It was but a temporary break in the trade, however, and this wicked firm is doing business as usual, only in a more careful and secret manner.

The above news was of such interest that a reporter of the *Hongkong Telegraph* called upon one of the leading American Consuls in the East and asked his views on the subject. "I am getting tired," he said, "of this ignorant denunciation of our laws respecting the importation of coolies and pauper labor whether from Asia, Europe or Africa it matters not. Some time ago I refused to endorse an alleged return certificate to the United States because I was convinced that it had been sold by the original owner to some contractor, and was to be used to import a poor coolie into San Francisco. For this I was subjected to adverse criticism and severe censure by the Europeans."

I said at that time and say now, that the only cloud upon the happy horizon of our great and glorious country has been produced by the immigration of lawless, pauper and even criminal classes from England and Europe. I know that it is considered impolitic to refer to this menace to American institutions but the time has arrived when policy to the contrary notwithstanding, the truth should be heard.

It is bad enough to have imbeciles, cripples, drunks and tramps thrown into our borders by the parish authorities of England and the European Nations. Public spirited officials find it cheaper to ship the human refuse of their districts across the ocean to the New World, than to support it in idleness at home. They use the United States as a cesspool into which to pour their refuse of the classes of a decent and self supporting manhood. This is the best reply I can make to the unjust attack of some subjects of monarchical nations upon America and American institutions. On the occasion to which I refer considerable censure was made on the nature and character of our people at home because of the troubles in New Orleans. In reply to my denunciation of indiscriminate admission of all immigration to our great republic it was suggested that we were not so particular in olden times when we welcomed the down-trodden of all nations. Yes, I said and we do want such people to-day and only such as the class of emigrants to America in the days when it was difficult to cross the ocean.

It required spartan courage in those days to visit America, and only the thrifty, ambitious, earnest honest toiler with energy, pluck and perseverance had the courage to strike out into the new world and from that source we the great American people to day have come and because of such stock we are a "Government for the people and by the people."

NOTES FROM THE "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS."

A telegram from Sydney states that the official inquiry into the causes of the bursting of a gun on board the Cordelia has resulted in proving that the occurrence was accidental, and that no one was to blame. The injured are doing well.

A Russian telegram from St. Petersburg states that a special mission, with Prince Arisaka at its head, is expected there from Japan during the present month, for the express purpose of convey-

ing to the Czar the regrets of the Imperial Family of Japan and of the Japanese people at the attempt made upon the life of the Czar on the occasion of his visit to Kyoto.

The China Shipowners' Mutual Steam Navigation Company announce that, commencing with the *Chingwa*, and until further notice, they will return to shippers to the Straits, China and Japan, who confine their support to our line, the 10 per cent. primeage charged on freights contributed. Shipments by the Ocean Steamship Company's steamers will not invalidate claims to the above rebate, which will be payable at their office, after Dec. 31 next, for the half-year then completed.

An action arising out of the death of Mr. Maybrick, whose wife is now undergoing imprisonment for having poisoned him, was on the 13th inst. before Justice Denham and Willis. Mr. Maybrick insured his life for two thousand pounds in favour of his wife in the Mutual Reserve Fund Association, and afterwards the policy was assigned to Mr. Cleaver, who, in conjunction with Mr. Maybrick's executors, brought an action to enforce payment of the sum assured. The Company resisted the claim, on the ground that Mrs. Maybrick's conviction for having caused the death of her husband released them from liability. The opening statement of counsel had not concluded when the case was adjourned till next week.

The conflict of authority which has arisen between Mr. Denis Doyle and the Portuguese as to the authenticity of his Majesty King Gungunhana's envoys should take a distinguished place in diplomatic history. The Portuguese assert that the envoys whose saying and doing have been a pleasing though subordinate attraction of the London season are in sober fact a mere fraud; the real envoys are at Lourenco Marques, where their errand is to give expression to their master's entire devotion to the beneficent power of Portugal. To this Mr. Doyle replies that his envoys are the only genuine ones, and that the dusky diplomatists at Lourenco Marques are, he feels convinced, local leaders of colour whom the wily Portuguese have tempted to play the part by profuse offers of money.

Mr. Labouchere has written the following letter:—"Sir James Ferguson has denied that there is an understanding with Italy which can bind England in the case of a war between France and Italy. There is one point, however, on which doubt is not possible. It is that Lord Salisbury gave Italy in 1887 certain assurances which are personally binding. But as these assurances have not been communicated to the House, the result is that the action of our Prime Minister in no respect binds the country. The elections which will take place next year will deprive the Conservative party of its majority, and I rejoice to think that the present Minister will be replaced by one who will recognise that his first duty is to re-establish the close bonds of friendship which ought to exist between our two countries."

The steamer *Kinloch*, of Glasgow, from Cebu, Philippine Islands, has arrived at Gravessend, and handed part of the crew of the steamer *Dunholme*, of West Hartlepool, bound from Middlesbrough for Japan, with a general cargo, with which vessel she collided some three miles E. by N. of Dover, the *Dunholme* sinking two minutes after the collision. A German sailor states that the collision occurred at ten minutes to three a.m., off Dover, which, thick fog was prevailing. The captain, Mr. Shaw, and three sailors, the second mate and third engineer were on deck at the time. There was no time to lower any boats, the vessel went down so quickly. It is believed that all hands got on deck. The *Kinloch* struck the *Dunholme* on the port main rigging. The *Kinloch* does not seem to have been seriously damaged.

A telegram from Teheran, says:—"The British Legation, in view of the fact that the Turkish Consulate at So-ou-Boulak is still occupied and surrounded by armed Kurds, has not accepted the proposal of the Turkish Ambassador that the English consul be kept a prisoner in the Consulate should be questioned there as to whether she has become a convert to Islamism or not. The Porte has fully recognised the right of Persia to maintain order in her own territory by an armed force if necessary. Persian troops are at So-ou-Boulak ready to take action, and the Turkish Ambassador, who has been throwing some obstacles in the way of the intervention of Persian authorities, now seems inclined to withdraw his opposition. About 1,000 Turkish Kurds crossed the Persian frontier to assist the rioters at So-ou-Boulak, but retired when a force of Persian cavalry was sent against them."

A horrible sight was witnessed at Bordeaux at the local bull-fighting arena, where the mild form of bull-fighting to which we are accustomed in Paris failed to satisfy the more hot-blooded Southerners. As soon as the first animal made its appearance some shouts of "A mort! A mort!" were raised, but were not echoed generally. Two animals were allowed to leave the ring: only losing blood from the slight wounds caused by the Banderilleros and the Picadores, but presently the whole audience took up the cry, and when the third bull was about to receive an imitation sword-wound the shouts for the death of the beast were so boisterous that a real sword was brought in, and the bull, in a fit of anger, handed to the Toreador. He drove the weapon up to the hilt into the bull's shoulder, but missed the spot which, when touched, causes instant death, and the poor tortured creature had to be despatched finally with a dagger, while some of the spectators cheered to the echo and others turned away their heads in disgust.

A correspondent of the *Standard*, writing from Bangkok on May 26th, states:—"The relations between France and Siam are gradually becoming strained. The French are jealous of the growing influence of the Germans and British at the Court of Siam, while the Siamese are with distrust the activity of French agents on their eastern frontier. The papers of French India-China complain very bitterly of the support which the Germans and British in Bangkok give to the Siamese Government in its claims to the Laos States. They demand a speedy settlement of the question, and represent the inhabitants as eager to exchange Siamese rule for that of France. The Siamese Government are pushing on the railway survey along their northern frontier. Their engineers have completed their work as far as Chienfeng, which is considered one of the best trading centres in the whole of India-China. Chienfeng stands on the right bank of the Mekong, and it is here that the routes from Burmah, Siam, French India-China, and China intersect. Hundreds of caravans pass through it yearly."

The Russian papers, says the *Journal de la Chambre de Commerce de Constantinople*, are eagerly discussing the ways and means of realisation of the gigantic railway undertaking in Siberia, as well as the considerable advantages which it promises. In their opinion it will be the means of considerably developing the commercial relations of Russia with China and Japan. It is estimated that if only one-fifth of the cargoes of Chinese and Japanese goods now going to Europe were despatched by the railway, the new route would at once give under that head more than 17,000,000 roubles of revenue at the present tariff rates. The Siberian railway ought, it is said, to affect the different routes of communication of the whole world. In Europe, for example, the principal commercial centre is London, and in China, Shanghai. At the present time the exchange of goods between these two places is effected by sea, and takes about 44 days at the least, whilst by sending

Intimations.

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these goods by the Siberian line, the journey will be reduced to 20 days, that is to say, 3 days from London to Versbolsvo, 14 days from Versbolsvo to Vladivostok, and 3 days from Vladivostok to Shanghai.

A Berlin correspondent telegraphs:—"The lamentations raised by the Paris *Figaro*, because, as it alleges, the German Embassy in Paris refuses, on principle, to issue passports to French commercial travelers who wish to go to Alsace-Lorraine, are ascribed here to a misunderstanding, as great consideration has always been shown by Germany in this matter. The *Norddeutsche* remarks that nothing is known here of any difficulties about the passports, and when in isolated cases, the visa has been refused, the reason has been a very different one from that stated by the *Figaro*, as there can be no intention to interfere with legitimate intercourse between France and the Provinces. The step must have been taken, on the contrary, as a precaution against secret agitation. A Frankfurt paper accounts for the stringent regulations by the fact that the German authorities have come into possession of the statutes and list of members of a Revanche Club, which has its headquarters at Nancy. This Club has about six hundred members, and under the name of a Mutual Benefit Society, aims primarily at bringing Alsace-Lorraine once more under French rule, and secondarily, at checking foreign competition in business and trade."

Lord Salisbury, in speaking at the United Club dinner in St. James's Hall on July 15th said he could not tell when the General Election would be. All he knew was that under the Septennial Act it could not be later than August, 1893. He was not so certain of the future as Mr. Labouchere, who knew of papers in the Foreign Office which he (Lord Salisbury) never saw. They must defend to the utmost the Established Churches of the country. The question of Disestablishment in Wales and Scotland was being agitated, but he considered that the final attack on the English Church was more remote now than it had been five years ago. The cry of "one man one vote" was being raised. He considered that unfair, because it would interfere with the oldest franchise in the country. The Conservative party had no reason to fear the result. Ireland and Wales, and the North of Scotland were over-represented. While England and the Metropolis of the Empire were under-represented. Attacks on the security of property were being made, and if persisted in they would deprive industry of its food and labour of its sustenance. He was anxious to abolish the illiterate voters, because the illiterate vote was a contrivance to enable the Roman Catholic priest to tyrannise over his flock. Nothing had, he said, been more gratifying in recent times than the growth of the belief in the Imperial mission and Imperial duties of this country.

THE Interest and Responsibility of Mr. WILLIAM HEWETT, JUNIOR in our Firm ceased on 1st July Instant.

W. HEWETT & Co.
Hongkong, 14th August, 1891. 11100

Consignees.

AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN LLOYD'S STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

FROM TRIESTE, PORT SAID, SUEZ, JEDDAH, SUAKIM, MASSAWAH, HOEDEDA, ADEN, BOMBAY, COLOMBO, PENANG, AND SINGAPORE.

THE Steamship "PANDORA" having arrived, Consignees of Cargo are hereby informed that their Goods, with the exception of opium, are being landed at their risk into the Godowns known as The Hongkong Wharf and Godowns, whence delivery may be obtained.

Consignees wishing to receive their Goods on the Wharf are at liberty to do so.

This vessel brings on Cargo:—
From Trieste, ex S.S. "IMPERATRIZ," transhipped at Bombay.
From Calcutta, ex S.S. "SELENE," transhipped at Colombo.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all claims must be sent in to the Underigned before Noon on the 19th inst., or they will not be recognized.

No Fire Insurance has been effected, and any Goods remaining in the Godowns after the 19th inst. will be subject to rent.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by **DAVID SASSOON, SONS & Co., Agents.**
Hongkong, 13th August, 1891. 11105

THE CHINA SHIPPERS' MUTUAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

FROM LONDON, LIVERPOOL, AND SINGAPORE.

THE Company's Steamship "OOPACK"

having arrived from the above Ports, Consignees of Cargo are hereby informed that their Goods are being landed at their risk, into the Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Limited, at Kowloon, whence delivery may be obtained.

No claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all claims must be sent in to the Office of the Underigned before Noon, on the 18th inst., or they will not be recognized.

All broken, chafed, and damaged goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on the 17th instant.

No Fire Insurance has been effected, and any Goods remaining in the Godowns after the 18th inst. will be subject to rent.

Optional cargo will be forwarded unless notice to the contrary be given before, at 5 p.m., TO-DAY.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by **ARNHOLD, KARBURG & Co., Agents.**
Hongkong, 11th August, 1891. 11097

PACIFIC MAIL STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

NOTICE.

CONSIGNEES of Cargo per Steamship "CHINA"

The above Steamship having arrived, Consignees of Cargo are hereby requested to send in their Bills of Lading for Countersignature, and to take immediate delivery of their Goods from along-side.

Cargo impeding the discharge of the Vessel will be landed and stored at Consignees' risk and expense.

J. S. VAN BUREN,
Agent.
Hongkong, 10th August, 1891. 11107

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FROM LONDON, LIVERPOOL, AND SINGAPORE.

THE Company's Steamship "OOPACK"

having arrived from the above Ports, Consignees of Cargo are hereby informed that their Goods are being landed at their risk, into the Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Limited, at Kowloon, whence delivery may be obtained.

No claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all claims must be sent in to the Office of the Underigned before Noon, on the 18th inst., or they will not be recognized.

All broken, chafed, and damaged goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on the 17th instant.

No Fire Insurance has been effected, and any Goods remaining in the Godowns after the 18th inst. will be subject to rent.

Optional cargo will be forwarded unless notice to the contrary be given before, at 5 p.m., TO-DAY.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by **ARNHOLD, KARBURG & Co., Agents.**
Hongkong, 11th August, 1891. 11097

PACIFIC MAIL STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

NOTICE.

CONSIGNEES of Cargo per Steamship "CHINA"

The above Steamship having arrived, Consignees of Cargo are hereby requested to send in their Bills of Lading for Countersignature, and to take immediate delivery of their Goods from along-side.

Cargo impeding the discharge of the Vessel will be landed and stored at Consignees' risk and expense.

J. S. VAN BUREN,
Agent.
Hongkong, 10th August, 1891. 11107

Intimations.

EMPIRE DRAUGHT ALES

SPARKLING EMPIRE PALE ALE

NOURISHING EMPIRE EXTRA STOUT

SEND FOR SAMPLE DOZEN TO THE SOLE AGENTS

HONGKONG TRADING CO., LTD.
4, QUEEN'S ROAD, and DUDDELL STREET.

W. BREWER

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